Action plan of Government to contain AIDS

488. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact as per the report of NACO, around 5.21 million adults in India are living with HIV;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand are the highly vulnerable regions; and

(d) if so, what is the action plan of Government to help these States to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the report of the Annual Sentinel Surveillance conducted in 750 designated sentinel sites all over the country, it is estimated that there are 5.21 million adults in India living with HIV/AIDS. The data shows that 58.7% belonged to rural areas, 39% of the infections were among women and 73% of the infections were contributed by the six high prevalence States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Manipur & Nagaland.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. In order to control the spread of HIV/AIDS in this vulnerable region of the country, the number of Sentinel Sites have been increased besides, focusing on saturating the high risk population groups by targeted interventions, mass awareness among youth and women group expanding the care, support and treatment to needy patients including provision of free Antiretroviral drugs and opportunistic infection management. Efforts are also being made to mainstream the HIV intervention strategies with other ministries and departmental activities.